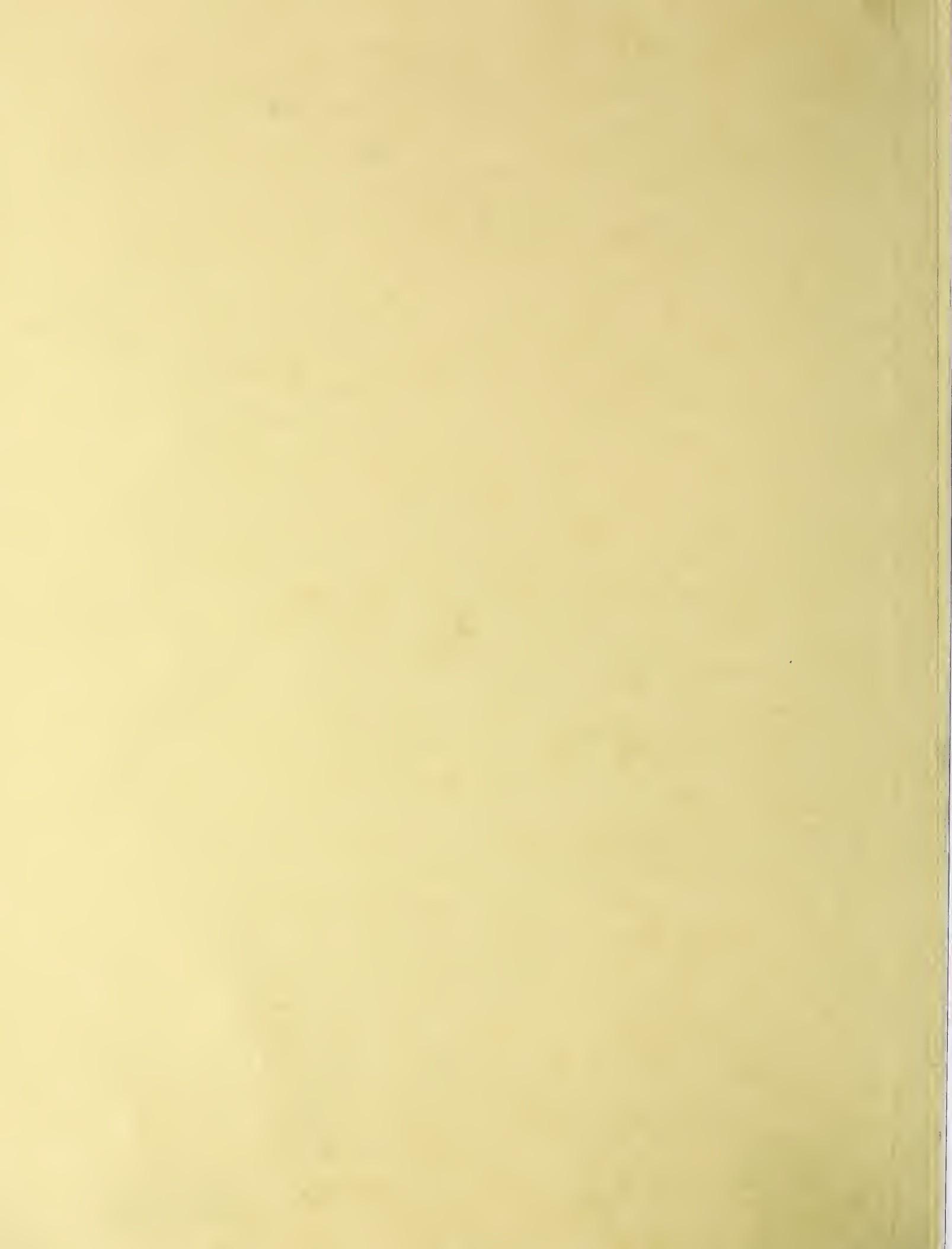


LINCOLN WHITE
House

DRAWER 10

WHITE HOUSE

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Abraham Lincoln's White House

Lincoln in the White House

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

light of day in the gentler environment of a frame house. But there is no longer a norm. Teddy Roosevelt was born in a New York City brownstone, F.D.R. at his family's Hyde Park, N.Y. estate, Hoover in a two-room house with board siding. Cleveland and Wilson were each born in the manse of a Presbyterian church.

If the Presidents' birthplaces have been mostly unprepossessing, the 19 that remain in existence are still treasured. Lincoln's one-

room log cabin is enshrined inside a granite memorial built in the Greek style. And Grant's two-room frame house was moved after his death and for 10 years became a traveling exhibit on a river towboat. It was then encased in glass for 40 years of stationary display, before being restored—meticulously—to its original site in 1936.



The Houses Where They Were Born



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<http://archive.org/details/abrahamlincolnswlinc>



Jesse and Hannah Grant

The first presidential parents to survive past the date of their son's inaugural were Jessie and Hannah



Simpson Grant. With his family of six, Jessie, a tanner, lived in modest prosperity in Georgetown, Ohio.



Alphonso and

Louise Maria Torrey, second wife of Alphonso Tait, objected to the election of her only son William

Their Parentage—Diverse in Origin



Eliza Ballou Garfield

The mother of the 20th President, Eliza Ballou Garfield, exerted an extraordinary influence on her son. "At almost every turning point in my life," James once wrote, "she has been the molding agent."



George and Alice Harding

The only father of a President to have been divorced was George Tryon Harding, an Ohio country doctor and farmer, shown here with his third wife Alice Sevens.



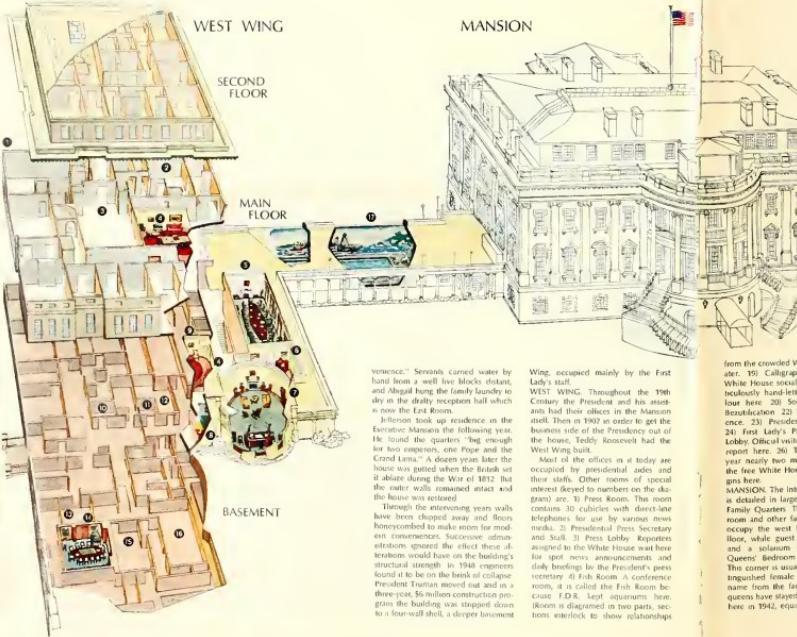
Nancy A. McKinley

Of her son William, Nancy Allison McKinley said: "I don't believe I raised the boy to be President... The first thing I knew, my son turned around and began to raise me to be mother of a President."

Martha Bulloch Roosevelt

Theodore Roosevelt Jr.'s beloved mother Martha Bulloch married into the wealthy Roosevelt family of New York in 1853. Her husband, Theodore Sr., was a banker.

The White House



George Washington had been President just three years when, on Oct. 13, 1793, the cornerstone was laid for "The President's House," the first public building to go up in Federal City, the new capital of the United States chosen to replace Philadelphia, as the nation's Capital. An Irish architect named James Hoban had won a \$500 prize for his design, for the mansion, looking out, a plan entered anonymously by Thomas Jefferson.

Even though the building, the grand house—some called it the President's Palace—was still unfinished when its first occupants, John and Abigail Adams, moved in on a blustery winter day in 1800 ("Shiver, shiver," complained Abigail in a letter to her daughter), we have not the least con-

dig, a steel framework erected and, laboriously, piece by piece, each room was re-created. In 1961 Congress de-classed the White House a museum and Jacqueline Kennedy undertook a massive restoration.

In this cutaway diagram, the most comprehensive ever published, LIFE slices into the White House to show what the principal rooms look like and to describe some of the events that have taken place within the most famous residence in the nation. In deference to a tradition of keeping presidential privacy, details of living quarters are not shown.

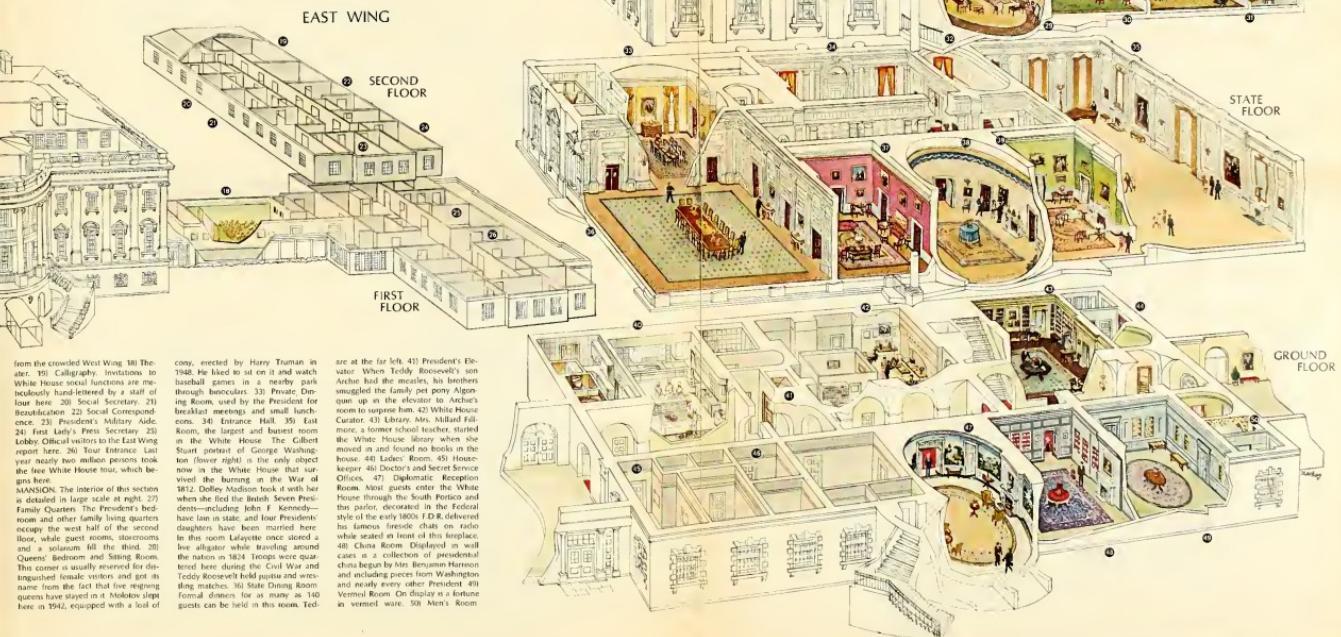
The present White House is made up of three separate structures: the Mansion itself, the West Wing, with the President's office, and the East

between basement Cabinet Room. When he resigns, he tells him 6) President's 7) President's Own Private Office and has intimate secluded room. 10) Communication 12) Photo Officer. 13) Council. 14) Situation of national crisis the close advisers gather direct hook-up helicopter at the Pentagon, while Moscow "Hot Line" Room. 16) Staff N.Y.C. Swimming Pool.
EAST WING F.D.R. in 1941 to accom-

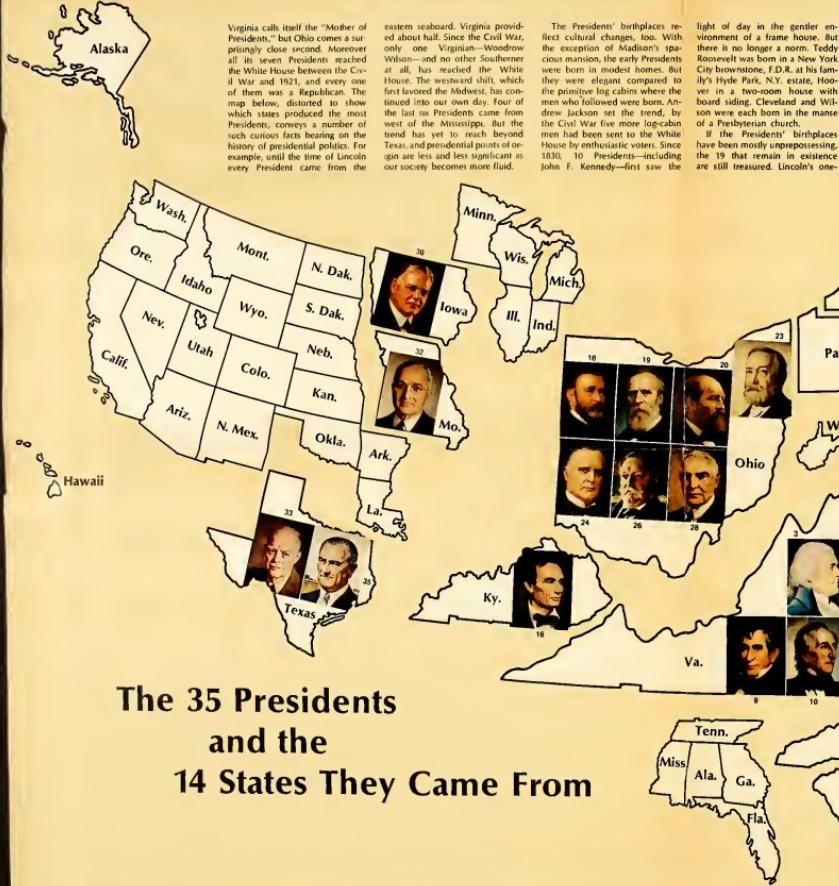
and first floor.)¹⁴ He has a Cabinet member's chair with Secretary of State's Private Secretary, Office, ¹⁵ Presi-
dential Office. He signs papers and talks in this small,
secret room. ¹⁶ Secret Service.
Barber. ¹⁷ Barber shop.
(3) National Security
Information Room. In times
of crisis, the President and his
advisers here. There is a
partition between this room and
the room to the
right. ¹⁸ Duplicating
room. ¹⁹ Swimming
pool. ²⁰

bread, a sausage and a pistol. Little Oval Room, as it is known locally, was the favorite hangout who enjoyed playing the here, 300 Treaty Room. The ending the Spanish-American and the 1963 Test-Ban Treaty were signed here. 31 Lincoln Bedroom Sitting Room, Lincoln used the room as an office and it was here he signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. Today, visiting dignitaries stay here, or are supposed to. Winston Churchill, first stayed these rooms by Eleanor Roosevelt, I found them not to his liking chomping indignantly on a cigar, kicked up his bags and stalked down the hall to the unoccupied Presidents' Bedroom. 32 Truman Bal-

on the walls but when Mrs. Harding moved in she said they smelled and had them removed. FDR had chafed into the mantel a prayer that John Adams wrote his second night in the White House: "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under us." In 1940, 37 Red Room. After Willkie Lincoln died, a scence to try to contact his spirit was held in this room. 38 Blue Room. The most formal room on the State Floor. It is furnished with a large oval table and chairs in a green room. Chairs now in this room were probably made for the Senate chamber at Annapolis during Washington's administration. 401 Kitchen. A pantry, a small elevator, and dumbwaiter to the other floors



The 35 Presidents and the 14 States They Came From



Virginia calls itself the "Mother of Presidents," but Ohio comes a surprisingly close second. Moreover all its seven Presidents reached the White House between the Civil War and 1921, and every one of them was born in the state. The map below distorted to show which states produced a number of presidents first becomes a bit like a history of presidential policies. For example, until the time of Lincoln every President came from the eastern seaboard. Virginia provided about half. Since the Civil War, only one Virginian—Woodrow Wilson—and no other Southerner at all, has reached the White House. The western states which first founded the Union, however, have contributed to our own day. Four of the last six Presidents came from west of the Mississippi. But the trend, so far, is to go still beyond Texas, and presidential points of origin are less and less significant as our society becomes more fluid.

The Presidents' birthplaces reflect cultural changes, too. With the exception of Madison's spacious mansion, the early Presidents were born in modest homes. But there is no longer a norm. Teddy Roosevelt was born in a New York City brownstone, F.D.R. at his family's Hyde Park, N.Y., summer home. The white columns of the White House itself were built on the site of a two-story house with board siding. Cleveland and Wilson were each born in the manse of a modest church. And the "Presidents" birthplaces have been mostly unimpressive, the 19 that remain in existence are still treasured. Lincoln's one-

room log cabin is enshrined inside a granite memorial built in the Greek style. And Grant's two-room frame house was moved after his death and for 10 years became a popular attraction in a riverboat. It was then encased in glass for 40 years of stationary display, before being restored—merely—to its original site in 1936.



The Houses Where They Were Born

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| 
1 George Washington
1732-97, Westmoreland Co., Va. Feb. 22, 1732 | 
2 John Adams
1735-1801, Braintree, Mass. Oct. 30, 1735 | 
3 Thomas Jefferson
1801-09, Albemarle Co., Va. April 13, 1743 | 
4 James Madison
1809-17, Port Conway, Va. March 16, 1731 | 
5 James Monroe
1817-25, Westmoreland Co., Va. April 28, 1758 |
| 
6 John Quincy Adams
1829-37, Braintree, Mass. July 11, 1767 | 
7 Andrew Jackson
1825-41, Kinderhook, N.Y. March 15, 1767 | 
8 Martin Van Buren
1841-45, Charles City Co., Va. Feb. 9, 1773 | 
9 William Henry Harrison
1841-45, Charles City Co., Va. March 29, 1773 | 
10 John Tyler
1841-45, Charles City Co., Va. March 29, 1773 |
| 
11 James K. Polk
1845-49, Mecklenburg Co., N.C. Nov. 2, 1795 | 
12 Zachary Taylor
1849-50, Orange Co., Ky. Nov. 24, 1784 | 
13 Millard Fillmore
1853-53, Cayuga Co., N.Y. Jan. 23, 1800 | 
14 Franklin Pierce
1853-73, Hillsboro, N.H. Nov. 23, 1804 | 
15 James Buchanan
1857-61, Stony Batter, Pa. April 23, 1791 |
| 
16 Abraham Lincoln
1861-65, Hardin Co., Ky. Feb. 12, 1809 | 
17 Andrew Johnson
1865-69, Rutherford, N.C. Dec. 29, 1808 | 
18 Ulysses S. Grant
1869-77, Point Pleasant, Ohio. April 27, 1822 | 
19 Rutherford B. Hayes
1877-81, Delaware, Ohio. Oct. 4, 1822 | 
20 James A. Garfield
1881-85, Orange, Ohio. Nov. 19, 1831 |
| 
21 Chester A. Arthur
1881-85, Franklin Co., Vt. Oct. 5, 1830 | 
22 Grover Cleveland
1885-89; 1893-97, Caldwell, N.J. March 18, 1837 | 
23 Benjamin Harrison
1889-93, North Bend, Ohio. Aug. 20, 1833 | 
24 William McKinley
1897-1901, Niles, Ohio. Jan. 29, 1843 | 
25 Theodore Roosevelt
1901-1909, New York City. Oct. 27, 1858 |
| 
26 William Howard Taft
1909-1913, Cincinnati, Ohio. Sept. 15, 1857 | 
27 Woodrow Wilson
1913-21, Staunton, Va. Dec. 28, 1856 | 
28 Warren G. Harding
1921-23, Morrow Co., Ohio. Nov. 2, 1865 | 
29 Harry S. Truman
1945-53, Lamar, Mo. May 8, 1884 | 
30 Dwight D. Eisenhower
1953-61, Dallas, Texas. Oct. 14, 1890 |
| 
31 Franklin D. Roosevelt
1933-45, Hyde Park, N.Y. Jan. 30, 1882 | 
32 John F. Kennedy
1961-63, Brookline, Mass. May 29, 1917 | 
33 Lyndon Baines Johnson
1963-73, Stonewall, Texas. Aug. 27, 1908 | | |

THE UNEXPLAINED

Is Abe Lincoln still in the White House?



By Allen Spraggett

● Does the ghost of Abraham Lincoln still walk the halls of the White House?

This question came up in a conversation I had in Washington with a senator who shares my interest in psychic phenomena.

The senator said that there have been those in recent years who reported seeing Mr. Lincoln prowling his old haunts, as it were.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of F.D.R., was one of those who took such reports seriously. As a matter of fact, she had her own theory of what a haunting was and it agreed with the views held by many scientists who have studied the phenomenon.

Mrs. Roosevelt believed that, as she put it, any place where someone had lived hard would quite likely be haunted by that individual's personality.

Parapsychologists—scientists who study psychic phenomena—believe that a house can retain impressions of those who have lived in it, long after the occupants are dead. This is particularly true if the occupant had

a powerful personality, and even more so if the dwelling was the scene of strong emotionalism or tragic events.

This theory may account for the numerous reported sightings of the ghost of Abraham Lincoln in the White House. Certainly he had a powerful personality. And certainly he experienced tragedy, as well as triumph, in the executive mansion.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt told the following story:

"I was sitting in my study downstairs when one of the maids burst in on me in a state of great excitement. I looked up from my work and asked her what the trouble was."

"'He's up there—sitting on the edge of the bed and taking off his shoes,' she exclaimed.

"Who's up there taking off his shoes?" I asked.

"'Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Lincoln,' the maid replied."

Mrs. Roosevelt said she had always felt that Lincoln's bedroom was haunted by what she called a serene and dignified presence.

One more example of The Unexplained!

Toronto Sun

Lincoln Ghost Reported Haunting White House

Something is keeping the ghost of Abe Lincoln restless. Reported sights of his ghost in the White House are increasing.

Some reports claim the ghost prowls the second floor of the White House near the historic Lincoln bedroom. Over the years, this is the one area where the ghost has been seen the most.

When Franklin Roosevelt occupied the White House, his wife's servant, Mary Eban, insisted that she'd seen Lincoln sitting in the northwest bedroom pulling on his boots. Various other servants also claimed they saw the ghost lying in his bed or standing quietly at the oval window above the main White House entrance. Mrs. Roosevelt even said that altho she never actually saw Lincoln, she did feel a ghostly kind of "presence" sometimes, while working late at night.

The valet of FDR reported that paintings would fall off the wall whenever someone connected with the White House died.

Even Harry Truman acknowledged the Lincoln ghost in his 1945 book, *Mr. President*: "My daughter and her two pals were sleeping in Lincoln's bed tonight. If I were not afraid it would scare them too badly, I would have Lincoln appear. The maids and butlers swear he has appeared on several occasions. It is said that even Mrs. Coolidge saw him." Truman could possibly have been implying by this that he considered arranging for the ghost to appear — as a joke.

A few years ago, a White House employee for 25 years (John Ficklin), reported the following: "I've heard about all kinds of crazy things . . . lights going on and off, doors opening and closing, knocks on doors when there's nobody there, Abe Lincoln wandering the halls."

Harry Truman also once told how he heard a knock on his bedroom door one night in 1946. The knock kept up, so he went to the door. No one was there.

By L. PERRY WILBUR

but Truman could hear what sounded like footsteps going down the hall.

Writing to his daughter, Margaret, Truman also wrote: "This old place cracks and pops all night and you can very well imagine that old Jackson or Andy Johnson or some other ghost is walking. Why they'd want to come back here I could never understand. It's a nice prison nevertheless. About these ghosts, I'm sure they're here and I'm not half so alarmed at meeting up with any one of them as I am at having to meet the live nuts I have to see every day."

But even royalty has seen the Lincoln ghost. Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, during a White House visit, told FDR and Mrs. Roosevelt that

she'd heard a knock at her door, answered it, and fainted when she saw the ghost of Lincoln standing there.

Over one dozen dependable witnesses — White House staff employees to government officials — have seen the ghost of John Kennedy. Even the late Lyndon Johnson saw it. LBJ reportedly told a cleaning worker he'd just seen JFK.

But the Lincoln ghost, of all ghosts seen in the White House, is apparently the most troubled or restless. It's of course a well-known fact that Lincoln, when alive, once saw his own body in a dream, lying in a casket in the East Room.

More strange happenings have been taking place lately at the White House address on Pennsylvania Avenue. Staff

members have told of lights on the second floor going on and off mysteriously, squeaking floors, and even wall pictures somehow changing their positions.

A Nixon aide even admits today that he doesn't relish the idea of visiting the second floor. Soon after the Nixons moved into the White House, this aide went up to the second floor to be sure all the lights were out. A few minutes after returning downstairs, the second-floor lights were on again with no explanation. "I hate to admit it," said the aide, "but I won't go up to the second floor at night unless someone is with me."

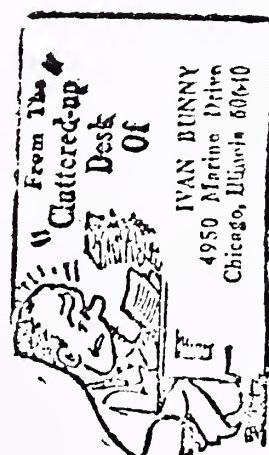
One thing seems certain. Ghosts who do their wandering in the White House obviously prefer to haunt in style.

CAPPER'S WEEKLY

THE HEART OF THE HOME NEWS WEEKLY FOR MID-AMERICA

Volume 98—No. 37

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66607



10-27-73

Dear Mr. Newman;

Came across the enclosed

article about the Ghost of Abraham Lincoln,

and thought you might find it interesting.

There's really nothing to worry about, as the Ghost of John Wilkes Booth will probably take care of it.

Ivan Bunny
Ivan Bunny

By SABIN ROBBINS IV
Special to the National Tattler

The troubled ghosts of Abraham Lincoln and other Presidents and First Ladies are often reported seen or heard prowling the White House and grounds of the Executive Mansion.

Such persistent reports have led to serious suggestions that, perhaps, the former occupants did not want to leave the mansion in death and instead roamed its halls as spirits.

One ghostly President swears. Another makes music. A phantom arsonist was reported to have tried to set fire to White House beds.

And no less a personage than Queen Wilhelmina of The Netherlands fainted dead away, she said, when she answered a knock at her door in the middle of the night and opened it to find a ghostly, bearded specter standing there.

Sabin Robbins IV is assistant public affairs director for the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. His byline has appeared in such publications as *The Washington Post*.

BUT THE GHOST of Abraham Lincoln is the most active spirit at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. It stalks the White House halls before national disasters, so the story goes.

Lincoln, himself said to be psychic, often consulted a medium during the troubled times of the Civil War. He claimed to have received regular visits from his two dead sons, Tad and Willie. Once, in a dream, he saw himself lying in a casket in the East Room. He asked who it was, and a spectral voice answered, "the assassinated President."

Since Lincoln's death, many White House occupants have said they saw or heard his ghost. One of Franklin D. Roosevelt's secretaries said she saw the Great Emancipator sitting on a bed, pulling on his boots.

Mrs. Roosevelt never saw Lincoln, but she recalled frequently sensing a ghostly "presence" she believed was Lincoln. Mrs. Calvin Coolidge had experienced the same sensation.

The ghost of Lincoln has been reported seen standing at the oval window over the main entrance of the White House. Witnesses were convinced that Lincoln was trying to tell something about his death.

The spirit of Lincoln is said to be unusually restive and troubled on the eve of a national crisis. Hours before the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, two framed pictures crashed to the floor outside the President's office.

TWICE DURING World War II, President Harry S Truman was awakened in the night by what he described as ghostly rappings on his bedroom door.

"I heard the knock and answered it about 3 o'clock in the morning," Truman recalled. "There wasn't anybody there. I think it must have been Lincoln's ghost walking the hall."

Soon after the Trumans moved into the White House, daughter Margaret and three friends decided to spend the night in the historic Lincoln bed. The President, well aware of the Lincoln ghost, wanted to scare his daughter and her friends by having a tall aide in a stovepipe hat knock on the bedroom door at midnight.

As things turned out, the aids got sick that day. But the girls didn't sleep anyway. The mattress was so old and lumpy, they spent most of the night on the floor talking and laughing.

Queen Wilhelmina was spending the night in the same bedroom when she was awakened by loud, persistent knocks and opened the door to see her ghostly vision.

Almost every Administration has reported ghostly happenings. Mrs. Lincoln herself insisted that she often heard Andrew Jackson swearing and Thomas Jefferson playing his violin.

President Herbert Hoover said he heard frequent strange sounds — "many of them were fantastic."

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson confided to friends that the ghost of Dolley Madison dropped in

one evening to pay her respects.

NOT ALL White House apparitions have been friendly. One dignitary and his wife left the White House hurriedly after spending a night of horror there. They said later that a ghost had tried to set fire to their beds — twice.

"Ike" Hoover, chief usher at the White House for more than 40 years, revealed in his memoirs that several staffers had seen a wandering child ghost. No one could identify it.

Sentimental First Ladies are said to return in spirit form now and then to the White House. During the William Howard Taft Administration, secretaries saw Abigail Adams, the first First Lady to live in the White House, walking with arms outstretched through the locked doors of the East Room. They also saw Abigail hanging up laundry there, just as she had done more than a century before.

Later, Mrs. Herbert Hoover poked fun at that story when she gave a linen shower for a secretary. She strung up the gifts on a clothesline in the East Room.

AN ANGRY Dolley Madison is said to have appeared in ghostly form and scolded the gardeners as they tried to move her favorite rose garden. The garden has never been moved.

Several people believe they heard the ghost of Mrs. Grover Cleveland, who gave birth to the first child of a President born in the White House. Loud moanings are said to echo her childbirth pangs.

Even little Fala, Franklin Roosevelt's famous dog, might have seen a ghost. Two maids, who were with the President in Georgia when he died, testified that the little terrier saw the spirit of the President leaving the "little White House" at the instant of death.

The howling dog rushed straight into the screen door, as if following the departing spirit of his master, and the door mysteriously swung open.

FALA CHASED the unseen presence across the yard.

During funeral services at the White House the dog made such a strange crying noise that he had to be taken from the room.

Many have laughed at the White House ghost stories, but they have never been able to convince either Queen Wilhelmina or any of the other witnesses.

Lady Ghosts of the White House

Feb. 10, 1974

NATIONAL TATTER

file
White House

10 3

Lincoln Bedroom popular

► Many have rested their heads in the Lincoln bed.

By ANGIE CANNON
of Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — At the White House, they can't change the sheets fast enough in the Lincoln Bedroom.

One week, newly elected Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer bunked in the big rosewood bed. Another week, it was Georgia Gov. Zell Miller. This week, British Prime Minister John Major slept over.

Betty Monkman, a White House curator, said there's no doubt the Clintons invite guests to stay in the Lincoln

Bedroom "more than some previous administrations."

"This reflects the Clintons' style of entertaining, welcoming people to their home," said Neel Lattimore, a spokesman for Hillary Rodham Clinton. "They enjoy having guests there. It's America's home."

Among those who have slept in the Lincoln Bedroom since the Clintons moved in: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter; the president's late mother, Virginia Kelley; former Chrysler chairman Lee Iaccoca; singer Judy Collins; Hawaii Gov. John Waihee and his wife; movie producer Steven Spielberg; Hollywood producer Harry Thomason



Knight-Ridder/Tribune

Under the Clinton administration, the Lincoln bedroom has played host to the rich, the famous and the powerful.

and his wife, Linda Bloodworth Thomason, who joked that she wanted to jump up and down on the bed.

The Lincoln Bedroom, located on the second floor of the main residence, actually wasn't Lincoln's bedroom. It was his office and Cabinet room. The room was used as a presidential office until 1902 when the West Wing and the Oval Office were built, Monkman said.

The bed with a headboard of carved birds and vines actually wasn't Lincoln's bed, either. It was purchased by Lincoln's wife in 1861 and used in a guest room. Lincoln never slept in the bed, although Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow

Wilson did sleep in it.

The bedroom does house Lincoln's desk, four Cabinet chairs and a signed copy of the Gettysburg Address, written in his hand.

And what of Lincoln's ghost?

"People have felt a presence in that room, a sense of history, a connection with Lincoln," Monkman said.

Patrick McManus, mayor of Lynn, Mass., suggested that "Clinton ought to let every member of Congress sleep over. He'd have no more problems."

Guests may receive mementos of their visits, all bearing the presidential seal. "No one steals towels or ashtrays," said a White House aide.

This file also includes articles from *Mr. Lincoln's White House* website, viewable online at:

<http://mrlincolnswhitehouse.org/>

WHITE HOUSE

DANIEL

LINCOLN
HOUSE
WILLIAMS

